



EXHIBIT 1
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HB 475

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

PO BOX 202801
HELENA MT 59620-2801
www.sos.mt.gov
(406) 444-2034
(406) 444-4249 (FAX)
(406) 444-9068 (TTY)

Linda McCulloch
Secretary of State

HB 475 Revise fee structure for online delivery of admin rules
House State Administration, RM 455
February 12, 2009 @ 9 AM
Secretary Linda McCulloch's Testimony

Good morning Mr. Chair, members of the committee.
For the record, I am Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch.

I am here today to support House Bill 475, because it updates the laws on administrative rules to reflect the current times.

I would like to thank Representative Mike Phillips for sponsoring this legislation on behalf of our office.

As we continue to progress into an electronic age, we must update our laws to recognize that an increasing number of operations are now being offered on-line.

On-line services not only reduce waste, they are often convenient, easy to manage, and time efficient.

Passage of this simple piece of legislation will help define and clarify current practices in the Secretary of State's Office.

These minor changes come at no additional cost to state government.

Changes include new wording that ensures an administrative rule, by definition, refers to both electronic rules and printed rules.

HB 475 also allows agencies to provide electronic access to the current versions of the Administrative Rules of Montana and the Montana Administrative Register--rather than having to provide a hard copy.

Additionally, this bill clarifies that the Secretary of State has the authority to charge for electronic services, which is our current practice for printing services.

Please keep in mind that people and agencies that by law currently receive the printed version for FREE will also receive the electronic version for FREE.

All of the changes in this bill are minor, and the updated version will further enhance the services provided by the Secretary of State.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of HB 475.